

PATENT APPLICATION

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re the Application of

Hiroaki TAKAIWA et al.

Group Art Unit: 2882

Application No.: 10/587,268

Examiner: M. LIU

Filed: July 26, 2006

Docket No.: 128865

For: IMMERSION EXPOSURE APPARATUS AND DEVICE MANUFACTURING METHOD  
WITH LIQUID DETECTION APPARATUS

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

Pursuant to 37 CFR §1.56, the attention of the Patent and Trademark Office is hereby directed to the references listed on the attached PTO-1449. Unless otherwise indicated herein, one copy of each reference is attached. It is respectfully requested that the information be expressly considered during the prosecution of this application, and that the references be made of record therein and appear among the "References Cited" on any patent to issue therefrom.

- ☒ 1. This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed more than three months after the U.S. filing date and after the mailing date of a Final Rejection, Notice of Allowance, or other action that closes prosecution (e.g., Quayle Action), but before payment of the Issue Fee. The fees associated with this filing under 37 C.F.R. §1.17(p) are being paid electronically with this filing. The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fee (or credit any overpayment) associated for this filing to Deposit Account No. 15-0461.
- ☒ a. I hereby certify that items 1, 2, 4 and 5 of information contained in this Information Disclosure Statement was first cited in any communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement. 37 CFR §1.97(e)(1).
- ☒ b. I hereby certify that items 3 and 6 of information in this Information Disclosure Statement was not cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application, and, to my knowledge after making reasonable inquiry, was not known to any individual designated in 37 CFR §1.56(c) more than three months prior to the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement. 37 CFR §1.97(e)(2).

- ☒ 2. One or more reference cited herein was cited in a counterpart foreign application. See Reference 1. An original and English language version of the foreign Office Action are attached for the Examiner's information as Reference 4.
- ☒ 3. An Office Action was issued in a counterpart foreign or international application. An original and English language version of the Office Action are attached as References 2 and 5. The references cited therein have already been made of record in this application.
- ☒ 4. A complete English language translation of one or more non-English language reference is attached. See Reference 1.
- ☒ 5. Office Actions were issued in U.S. application No. 11/652,015 and No. 11/889,288. Copies of the Office Action are submitted for the Examiner's consideration as References 3 and 6. The references cited therein have already been made of record in this application.

Respectfully submitted,



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MAC/axl

Date: May 16, 2011

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